

AGENDA

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE UTAH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, August 19, 2009 • 9:00 a.m. • Room 30 House Building

Approximate
Time Frame

9:00 1. Committee Business

- Call to order
- Approval of the minutes of the June 17, 2009 meeting

9:05 2. Federal Stimulus Monies to the State of Utah and its Political Subdivisions -- Briefing

In January, Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), also known as the federal economic stimulus bill. This \$787 billion combination of tax cuts and funding for development and job creation was intended to promote economic recovery and stabilize state and local government budgets. Utah is expected to receive approximately \$1.7 billion from the stimulus bill. What are the latest figures? What projects was or will the money be used for? What strings are attached? How is the state tracking the money, providing oversight, and distributing information relating to federal stimulus funds?

- John E. Nixon, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
- Michael Mower, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

9:30 3. Election Law Changes from the County Clerks

Each year a number of election issues arise that require consideration by the Legislature. Most of the issues are technical and administrative in nature, others may require a more substantive policy determination. At the request of the committee chairs, representatives of the county clerks will present this year's list of prioritized and proposed election law changes for the Committee's preliminary consideration. In addition, during the 2008 interim, the Committee asked for the county clerks' recommendations on providing a single ballot which would include local district races during municipal elections. A five-year process was begun toward that goal. What changes are recommended for this year? How should the Legislature respond to these issues? Should draft legislation be prepared to address the issues presented?

- Bryan Thompson, Association of County Clerks (Utah County)
- Scott L. Hogensen, Association of County Clerks (Utah County)

10:00 4. Privatization Policy Board -- Annual Report

The Privatization Policy Board is required to review whether or not an agency-provided good or service could be privatized to result in cost savings. An annual report to the Legislature is required on the board's activities and recommendations for privatization. During the 2008 General Session, the Legislature passed H.B. 75, "Inventory and Review of Commercial Activities," which added an oral report requirement and a requirement to create and report on the status of commercial activities inventory, listing agency activities and classifying them as a commercial activity or an inherently governmental activity.

- Kent Dee Beers, Division of Purchasing and General Services, Department of Administrative Services

10:30 5. Competition Between the Private Sector and Local Government in Providing a Service

Frequently, government provides an essential service to its citizens because the economic incentives are insufficient for the private sector to provide the needed service. Examples of government-provided services include: road construction and maintenance, police protection, etc. Some argue that government sometimes crosses the line by inappropriately competing with the private sector in providing a service. One such service debated in the past is government-run recreational facilities that may compete with private sector recreational facilities. What services should government provide and under what circumstances is it inappropriate for government to provide a service? Should the answer depend on whether tax dollars are used to provide the service? Should the answer depend on whether a local government entity provides or attempts to provide the service in territory or for citizens outside of its boundary? Should the answer differ if the service is provided by a nonprofit corporation owned by the local government entity rather than by the local government entity itself?

The focus of this agenda item is to examine issues relating to a situation of providing health care services in Duchesne and Uintah Counties. Duchesne County wholly owns a 501(c)(3) health care corporation providing services in Uintah County.

- A representative of the service provider (Duchesne County)
- A representative of the private sector (Uintah County)

11:00 6. Other Items / Adjourn